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arranging said display contents display zone to turn in response to a user's
selection through said cursor.^{as}

REMARKS

Initially, in the Office Action dated October 3, 2002, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 5 and 12-16 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,838,326 (Card et al.). Further, claims 4 and 17-20 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Card et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,201,540 (Gallop et al.).

By the present response, Applicants have amended claims 1, 5 and 17-20. Further, Applicants have submitted new claims 21 and 22 for consideration by the Examiner. Applicants have cancelled non-elected claims 6-11. Claims 1-5 and 12-22 remain pending in the present application.

35 USC §102 Rejections

Claims 1-3, 5 and 12-16 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Card et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Card et al. discloses a system for moving document objects in a 3-D workspace. A document object may be a document or a document collection. The document workspace is divided hierarchically in terms of interaction rates. A focus base is where the direct interaction with a document or document collection occurs. In immediate memory space is for placing pages or books that are in use, but not currently being interacted with. A tertiary space is where many books and pages that are not in use, but which it is desirable to have ready access to. Moving

document objects in the document workspace is facilitated by touch-drop and flick gestures.

Regarding claim 5, this claim has been amended to be dependent upon new independent claim 21 and is patentable over the cited references for reasons noted under the heading “New Claims”, discussed following.

Regarding independent claims 1 and 12-16, Applicants submit that Card et al. does not disclose or suggest the limitations in the combination of each of these claims of, *inter alia*, arranging the contents display zones such that a contents display zone to which contents information selected by user belongs at a position near a center of the screen in a longitudinal direction thereof, or arranging contents information items corresponding to a plurality of contents in a virtual three-dimensional space on a screen, or sequentially minimizing sizes of the contents information items as positions thereof become deeper in a direction of depth of the screen for each of the contents display zones, or minimizing sizes of contents information items corresponding to a plurality of contents as positions thereof become higher in the screen. Card et al. does not disclose or suggest anything related to display zones arranging the contents of display zones, or arranging the contents where information selected by a user belongs at a position near the center of the screen in a longitudinal direction. Further, Card et al. fails to disclose the other limitations noted in the claims of the present application.

Regarding claims 2 and 3, Applicants submit that these claims are dependent on independent claim 1 and, therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted regarding this independent claim.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Card et al. does not disclose or suggest the limitations in the combination of each of claims 1-3, 5 and 12-16 of the present application. Applicants respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

35 USC § 103 Rejections

Claims 4 and 17-20 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Card et al. in view of Gallop et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Gallop et al. discloses graphical interface components for in dash automotive accessories where an automobile computer system having a computer that runs an open platform operating system is configured to support multiple applications, including applications that can be installed by a user. The system includes an operator interface that is mountable for viewing by an operator of an automobile.

Regarding claim 17, Applicants submit that neither Card et al. nor Gallop et al., taken alone or in any proper combination, disclose, suggest or render obvious the limitations in the combination of claim 17 of, *inter alia*, arranging the contents display zones such that a contents display zone to which contents information selected by user belongs at a position near a center of the screen in a longitudinal direction. As noted previously, Card et al. fails to disclose or suggest anything related to this limitation in the claims of the present application. Moreover, Gallop et al. does not disclose or suggest this limitation in the claims of the present application.

Regarding claims 4 and 18-20, Applicants submit that these claims are dependent on one of independent claims 1 and 17 and, therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted previously regarding these independent claims.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that neither Card et al. nor Gallop et al., taken alone or in any proper combination, disclose, suggest or render obvious the limitations in the combination of each of claims 4 and 17-20 of the present application. Applicants respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

New Claims

Applicants have submitted new claims 21 and 22 for consideration by the Examiner and respectfully submit that these claims do not contain any prohibited new matter and are patentable over the cited references taken alone or in any proper combination. Specifically, none of the cited references, taken alone or in any proper combination, disclose, suggest or render obvious the limitation of displaying a contents display zone to which contents information selected by a user belongs at a position near a center of the screen in a longitudinal direction thereof.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that these claims be allowed.

Moreover, Applicants have amended claim 5 to be dependent on independent claim 21 and, therefore, Applicants submit that claim 5 is patentable over the cited references at least for the same reasons noted regarding independent claim 21.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 1-5 and 12-22 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **“Version with markings to show changes made.”**

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees and excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (referencing case No. 500.38106X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Version with markings to show changes made

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A multimedia information display method of displaying contents of a plurality of multimedia, comprising the steps of:
~~providing [displaying a screen in which contents information items of] a plurality of contents display zones [are arranged] in a virtual three-dimensional space on a screen [manner] to arrange contents information items corresponding to a plurality of contents selected for each of the contents display zones; [and]~~
~~arranging the contents display zones such that a contents display zone to which contents information selected by user belongs at a position near a center of the screen in a longitudinal direction thereof; and~~
displaying in the screen detailed items of contents regarding a contents information item selected [from the screen] by a user.

5. (Amended) A multimedia information ~~display~~ [processing] method ~~in accordance with claim 21 [for processing information of a plurality of media], further comprising [the steps] a step of:~~
assigning a variable representing a utilization degree to each of the information items according to history of use of the information items of a plurality of media by the user in the past; and

changing an information display method according to the variable.

17. (Amended) A multimedia information display method for use with a

display employed in a car, comprising the steps of:

[generating] providing a plurality of contents display zones in a virtual three-dimensional space [in] of a screen of a display mounted on a car;

a screen of a display mounted on a car;

arranging contents information items corresponding to a contents selected from a plurality of contents received in one-way communication for each contents display zone; [and]

arranging the contents display zones such that a contents display zone to which contents information selected by user belongs at a position near a center of the screen in a longitudinal direction thereof; and

minimizing sizes of the contents information items as positions thereof become deeper in a direction of depth of the screen.

18. (Amended) A multimedia information display method in accordance with claim 17 [for use with a display employed in a car], further comprising [the steps] a step of:

[generating a virtual three-dimensional space in a screen of a display mounted on a car;

arranging contents information items corresponding to a plurality of contents received in one-way communication;

minimizing sizes of the contents information items as positions thereof become deeper in a direction of depth of the screen; and]

displaying contents items having a higher utilization degree of the user on a nearer side of the user.

19. (Amended) A multimedia information display method in accordance with claim 17 [for use with a display employed in a car], further comprising the steps of:

[generating a virtual three-dimensional space in a screen of a display mounted on a car;]

setting at least two contents display zones extending in a direction of depth in the three-dimensional space;

arranging contents information items corresponding to a plurality of contents received in one-way communication in one of the zones arranging contents information items corresponding to a plurality of contents received in two-way communication in other one thereof; and

minimizing sizes of the contents information items in each of the zones as positions thereof become deeper in a direction of depth of the screen.

20. (Amended) A multimedia information display method in accordance with claim 17 [for use with a display employed in a car], further comprising the steps of:

[generating a virtual three-dimensional space in a screen of a display mounted on a car;]

setting [a] said plurality of contents display zones [extending] to extend in a direction of depth [in the three-dimensional space]; and

[arranging] displaying said contents information items in a circle near a center in lower region of the screen [corresponding to a plurality of contents selected for each of the contents display zones;]

[sequentially minimizing sizes of the contents information items as positions

thereof become deeper in a direction of depth of the screen for each of the contents display zones]; and

[display a] arranging said contents display zone to turn in response to a user's selection through a cursor [which contents information selected belongs at a position near a center of the screen in a longitudinal direction thereof].